



Right to Work State Constitutional Amendment

The Tennessee Business Roundtable supports Senate Joint Resolution 2/House Joint Resolution 72, legislation which proposes amending Article XI of the Constitution of Tennessee by adding a provision establishing the right to work regardless of status of affiliation with any labor union or employee organization.

Tennessee's right-to-work protections have been part of our state's statutes for over 70 years. Over the decades since their enactment, these balanced protections have become an important differentiator for and valuable facet of Tennessee's business-climate brand. Our state's right-to-work protections have delivered certainty and stability to those who work and invest in Tennessee's business community, contributing significantly to our state's reputation as a business-friendly location. Moreover, our state's statutory right-to-work provisions protect Tennessee workers' voices, their rights of free association, and each Tennessean's right to decide whether to join any labor union or employee organization, free of coercion by anyone.

With a view to enhancing the certainty and stability afforded by these protections for Tennessee's workers and business owners, the Tennessee Business Roundtable supports offering Tennesseans the opportunity to freely decide whether to codify our right-to-work protections into our state's Constitution. If the people of our state choose to give their assent to this proposed amendment through a free and fair election, Tennessee can permanently affirm its commitment to fairness and freedom for its workers and businesses—the key drivers of our state's economic prosperity.